

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the above amendments and arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1-8, 10, 12-18, 20-34, 36, 38, 40-44, 46-52, 61, 69, and 70 were previously pending in the present application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1-8, 10, 12-18, 20-34, 36, 38, 40-44, 46-52, 61, 69, and 70 have been rejected.

Summary Applicant-Initiated Interview

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for conducting an interview with the Applicant's attorney on August 30, 2010. Joseph Weatherbee (64,810) was present at the interview as counsel for the Applicant.

During the interview, the parties discussed the Applicants' proposed amendment to Claim 1 in view of United States Patent Publication No. 2002/0078230 to Hals et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Hals") and further in view of United States Patent No. 5,948,040 to DeLorme et al. (hereinafter referred to as "DeLorme").

Without intending to mischaracterize the substance of the interview, Applicant is of the opinion that the Examiner agreed that if the Applicant elaborated on the concept of context determination and more definitely claimed the concept of

"local" to include a precise definition that the amendments would be adequate overcome a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103. However, the Examiner indicated that further search and consideration would likely be required.

Also, Mr. Weatherbee indicated the Applicants' desire to expedite prosecution and willingness to discuss any issues arising from this response in a subsequent Examiner-initiated interview. The Examiner replied that he would contact Mr. Weatherbee in the event that he has any questions or if any objections or rejections arise that may be addressed by Examiner's amendment.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Within the Office Action, Claim 27 was rejected under 35 USC 101 for allegedly not reciting statutory subject matter. Applicants amend Claim 27 herein, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 - Hals in view of DeLorme

Also within the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 8, 10, 12, 14-18, 20-29, 34, 36, 38, 40-44, 46-52, 61, and 69 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hals in view of United States Patent No. 5,948,040 to DeLorme (hereinafter referred to as "DeLorme").

The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, because neither Hals nor DeLorme, either alone or in combination, disclose all of the limitations of Claims 1, 6-8, 10, 12-17, 22-27, 32-34, 36-38, 40-43, 48, 50-52, and 61, as amended herein.

Specifically neither Hals nor DeLorme teach a "system for providing travel information to an end user in an intelligent way using a search result, said system comprising: a user database configured for storing user profile information including users' zip codes; a regional information database containing information relating to a plurality of cities; a local events feed retrieval system comprising: a rules-based engine for obtaining local event information relating to said plurality of cities from a plurality of external partners via custom codes in XML format; and a local event feed retrieval database configured to process said local event information relating to said plurality of cities; a server operatively coupled with said user database, said regional information database, and said local events feed retrieval system, wherein said server is configured to receive a request for travel information from the end user and configured to determine said end user's home location by referencing said user's zip code in said user database, wherein said home location is determined to be one city from among the plurality of cities that is the closest to said user's zip code; ... wherein said context determination module processes a user entered phrase using a search mechanism to simultaneously determine both: travel destination

information relevant to said end user, wherein travel destination information includes only designation information about said user's home location and the three closest cities, from among the plurality of cities, to the user's home location; and ...a searching module configured to search for a plurality of search results based said context, wherein each search result from among said plurality of search result comprises each of: logistical travel information relating to said travel destination; and location-specific, interest-dependent, and dynamic information corresponding to local events held in said user's home location and the three closest cities, from among the plurality of cities, to the user's home location; wherein said server is further configured to return said plurality of search results to the end user via a browser-based interface, wherein said plurality of search results are organized by both: the city in which said local events occur; and the relative distance that said region, city, and urban area is from said home location," nor does the Examiner suggest that they do.

Indeed, as explained above, the Applicant is of the opinion that the Examiner agreed that these amendments would be adequate overcome a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 - Hals in view of DeLorme and Bollay

Also within the Office Action, Claims 4, 5, 30, and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hals in view of DeLorme and further in view of United States Patent No. 6,457,009 to Bollay. Applicants cancel Claims 4, 5, 30, and 31 herein, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 - Hals in view of DeLorme and Fries

Also within the Office Action, Claims 6, 7, 32, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hals in view of DeLorme and further in view of United States Patent No. 6,601,059. Applicants respectfully traverse. Claims 6, 7, 32, and 33 depend directly from the claims that have been discussed. Therefore, Claims 6, 7, 32, and 33 are allowable for being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 - Hals in view of DeLorme and Wilder

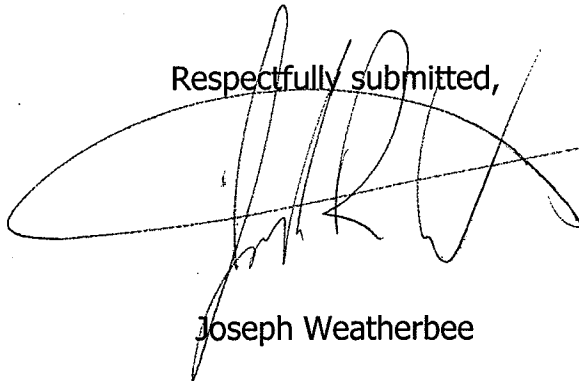
Also within the Office Action, Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hals in view of DeLorme and further in view of United States Patent No. 5,408,417. Applicants respectfully traverse. Claim 13 depends

directly from the claims that have been discussed. Therefore, Claim 13 is allowable for being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully posits that the pending claims have been distinguished from the art of record, and that all objections to and rejections of the claims have been overcome. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance. Should the Examiner deem it helpful he is encouraged to contact Applicant's attorney at (650) 474-8400.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Weatherbee', is written over the text 'Respectfully submitted,'.

Joseph Weatherbee

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